

The Honorable John H. Chun

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

v.

AMAZON.COM, INC., *et al.*,

Defendants.

No. 2:23-cv-0932-JHC

DEFENDANTS' MOTIONS *IN*
LIMINE

NOTED ON MOTION CALENDAR:
SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

ORAL ARGUMENT REQUESTED

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Defendants move for an order excluding or limiting evidence at trial regarding the six topics below. Pursuant to LCR 7(d)(5), Defendants certify that, through their counsel, they conferred with Plaintiff's counsel in a good faith effort to reach agreement on these motions *in limine* but reached an impasse on the topics below. *See* August 11, 2025 Declaration of Joseph A. Reiter ¶¶ 3–9; Ex. 1.¹

MIL 1: Exclude Financial and Remedies Evidence Unrelated to Alleged Conduct

The Court should exclude from the jury trial all financial and remedies evidence unrelated to the jury's liability determinations.² The jury will decide whether Amazon and three individuals violated ROSCA and the FTC Act. If it finds liability, the jury will also decide whether the FTC has met the prerequisites for civil penalties. But the amount of any penalties—and whether the FTC is entitled to restitution or injunctive relief—is solely for the Court.

Because financial and remedies evidence is relevant only to the Court's post-verdict role, the jury should not hear any evidence or argument on: (1) the compensation or wealth of Amazon's executives, including the Individual Defendants and their families; (2) Amazon's revenues or profits; (3) the remedies sought, such as restitution, civil penalties, or injunctive relief; and (4) quantifications of alleged "consumer harm" to support restitution. This evidence is irrelevant under Rules 401 and 402 and would pose a risk of unfair prejudice under Rule 403.

It is well established that liability and the availability of civil penalties are properly decided by the jury at trial, whereas remedial matters—the amount of any civil penalties, restitution, and injunctive relief, are for the Court to decide post-verdict. *See Tull v. United States*, 481 U.S. 412, 425, 427 (1987) (penalty amounts before the judge after jury verdict on liability); *see also United States v. Dish Network, L.L.C.*, 754 F. Supp. 2d 1002, 1003 (C.D. Ill. 2010) (liability for civil penalties to be decided by a jury, but the court determines the amount and any equitable relief); *FTC v. Com. Planet, Inc.*, 815 F.3d 593, 599 (9th Cir. 2016) (order to

¹ "Ex." or "Exs." refer to exhibits attached to the August 11, 2025 Declaration of Joseph A. Reiter.

² Subject to the Court's preferences, the Parties agree that evidence relevant only to "judge questions" may be submitted outside the presence of the jury, after the jury trial. *See* Ex. 1 at 13.

1 pay restitution is part of the “court’s inherent equitable power”), *abrogated on other grounds*,
2 593 U.S. 67 (2021). The FTC acknowledged as much in its Pretrial Statement, which recognizes
3 that the remedial issues will be resolved after the jury trial, “based on the evidence adduced at
4 trial and additional evidence presented solely to the Court.” Ex. 2 at 7.

5 Nonetheless, Amazon anticipates that the FTC may reference or introduce such evidence
6 at trial. The Court should exclude it as irrelevant and, in any event, as unduly prejudicial under
7 Rule 403.

8 *First*, the FTC has included the Individual Defendants’ compensation documents on its
9 list of trial exhibits. *See* Ex. 3 at Exs. 179, 576–80; *see also* Dkt. 295 at 2 (“Defendants have
10 provided the FTC with financial information about their compensation by Amazon. *See* Dkt. 261
11 at 16.”). But in the course of denying the FTC additional discovery on the Individual
12 Defendants’ financial position as “premature,” this Court has already explained that the
13 Individual Defendants’ financial information “has no bearing on the FTC’s ability to prove the
14 merits of its underlying claims.” Dkt. 295 at 2. The same goes for financial information about
15 other Amazon executives, including its founder. This financial evidence is therefore irrelevant.
16 *See* Fed. R. Evid. 401, 402.

17 Even if this evidence were relevant, it must be excluded under Rule 403, because the risk
18 of prejudicing the Defendants outweighs any minimal probative value. As courts have long
19 recognized, “the presentation of evidence of a defendant’s net worth” and finances “creates the
20 potential that juries will use their verdicts to express biases against big businesses.” *State Farm*
21 *Mut. Auto. Ins. Co. v. Campbell*, 538 U.S. 408, 417 (2003). Indeed, courts regularly exclude
22 executive compensation evidence on these grounds. *See, e.g., Strategic Partners, Inc. v. FIGS,*
23 *Inc.*, 2022 WL 17348175, at *2 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 26, 2022) (“[A]ny mention of the net worth” of
24 a CEO should be excluded because “that information may prejudice [defendant’s] case in the
25 eyes of the jury.” (citing *In re Homestore.com, Inc.*, 2011 WL 291176, at *1 (C.D. Cal. Jan. 25,
26 2011) (“Evidence of a party’s financial condition is generally not relevant and can be unduly
27 prejudicial, as it can distract the jury from the real issues in the case.”))); *Collins v. Milliman*,

1 *Inc.*, 2023 WL 3891749, at *4 (W.D. Wash. June 8, 2023) (excluding evidence of the parties’
 2 financial conditions, which “do not make any fact related to [plaintiff’s] claims more or less
 3 probable”); *Amboy Bancorporation v. Jenkins & Gilchrist*, 2008 WL 3833582, at *5 (D.N.J.
 4 Aug. 13, 2008) (the personal wealth of officers, directors, and shareholders “has no bearing on
 5 any issue or defense in this case”), *vacated in part on other grounds*, 432 Fed. App’x 102 (3rd
 6 Cir. 2011); *Sturm v. Davlyn Invs., Inc.*, 2013 WL 8604661, at *6 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 6, 2013)
 7 (granting motion *in limine* because “[d]efendants’ financial condition is irrelevant” to liability
 8 and “would be unfairly prejudicial”); *Escobar v. Airbus Helicopters SAS*, 2016 WL 5897554, at
 9 *7 (D. Haw. Oct. 7, 2016) (similar); *Bryant v. OptumRX Pharmacy, Inc.*, 2017 WL 5714721, at
 10 *3 (C.D. Cal. May 10, 2017) (similar).

11 *Second*, and similarly, the market share, revenue, or profitability of Amazon has no
 12 tendency to prove or disprove whether Amazon violated ROSCA or the FTC Act. References to
 13 this information, or evidence about it, are therefore irrelevant and must be excluded. *See* Fed. R.
 14 Evid. 401, 402. And again, even if this evidence were relevant, it must be excluded because of
 15 the prejudicial effect of evidence about corporate earnings. *See, e.g., State Farm*, 538 U.S. at
 16 417.

17 *Third*, introducing evidence or argument about remedies at the liability stage would
 18 impermissibly invite the jury to consider punishment or compensation—matters that are for the
 19 Court alone to decide. Courts also regularly exclude this information from trial. *See, e.g.,*
 20 *Campbell v. Union Pac. R.R. Co.*, 2021 WL 1341037, at *6 (D. Idaho Apr. 9, 2021) (evidence
 21 on injunctive relief should be excluded, because “[i]njunctive relief is a question for the Court,
 22 not the jury, and any evidence related thereto is not relevant and would risk confusion of the
 23 issues”); *Grace v. Apple, Inc.*, 2020 WL 227404, at *4 n.3 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 15, 2020) (excluding
 24 evidence regarding equitable restitution because that was “for the Court to decide, not the
 25 jury”); *United States ex rel. Scultellaro v. Capitol Supply, Inc.*, 2017 WL 9889370, at *2
 26 (D.D.C. Sept. 20, 2017) (granting motion *in limine* excluding references to civil penalties).

1 *Fourth*, and for the same reasons, the Court should exclude from the liability trial the
 2 FTC’s expert evidence in support of its restitution demand. The FTC’s expert, Dr. Neale
 3 Mahoney, claims to have quantified the harm to consumers from Amazon’s enrollment and
 4 cancellation flows, in support of the FTC’s demand for restitution. *See* Dkt. 325, Ex. 18
 5 (Mahoney Report); Dkt. 323 at 1 (Defs.’ Rule 702 Mot. to Exclude). But this Court, not the jury,
 6 will decide whether restitution is available and, if so, in what amount. *See Com. Planet, Inc.*, 815
 7 F.3d at 599. So even if Dr. Mahoney’s opinions about the presence of consumer harm are
 8 relevant and admissible at the liability phase, *but see* Dkt. 323 (seeking exclusion of Dr.
 9 Mahoney’s report), his (deeply flawed) efforts to quantify that harm are not. In all events, any
 10 probative value those quantified estimates have at the liability phase is substantially outweighed
 11 by the risk of prejudicing Amazon by allowing the jury to hear Dr. Mahoney opine that Amazon
 12 owes nearly *a billion dollars* in restitution—a sum the sheer size of which could (wrongly)
 13 suggest that Amazon is liable. *See* Fed. R. Evid. 403; *United States v. Thompson*, 606 F. Supp.
 14 3d 1058, 1065 (W.D. Wash. 2022) (recognizing that a “very large sum ... alone may mislead and
 15 confuse the jury”).

16 For all of these reasons, the FTC should be precluded from introducing any evidence or
 17 argument on financial and remedies evidence unrelated to liability.

18 **MIL 2: Exclude Evidence or Argument Concerning Discovery Disputes**

19 Pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 401, 402, and 403, the Court should exclude all
 20 evidence or argument concerning the Parties’ discovery disputes, including any claim that
 21 Amazon delayed the FTC’s pre-suit investigation by “fail[ing] to timely produce the documents
 22 the CIDs require,” Dkt. 69 (“Am. Compl.”) ¶¶ 239–55; any allegation that Defendants
 23 mislabeled or over-designated documents as privileged, *id.* ¶¶ 235–38; Dkts. 286, 334; and any
 24 reference to orders sanctioning Amazon’s “conduct during discovery.” Dkt. 404 at 8; Dkt. 371.

25 Courts routinely preclude reference to discovery disputes—including disputes over
 26 privilege claims—because they are irrelevant, risk unfair prejudice, confuse the issues, and
 27 mislead the jury. *See, e.g., Van v. Language Line Servs., Inc.*, 2016 WL 3566980, at *4 (N.D.

Cal. June 30, 2016) (excluding “evidence regarding discovery disputes” and “claims of privilege” given “[t]he risk of unfair prejudice, confusing the issues, misleading the jury, and wasting time”); *Multimedia Pat. Tr. v. Apple Inc.*, 2012 WL 12868264, at *5 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 20, 2012) (precluding parties from “making any references to pretrial discovery disputes, discovery negotiations, and/or claims of privilege”); *Wyatt Tech. Corp. v. Malvern Instruments, Inc.*, 2010 WL 11505684, at *16 (C.D. Cal. Jan. 25, 2010) (to “bring the parties’ discovery disputes into the courtroom” would “waste the jury’s time and likely confuse the true issues in this case”); *Barnett v. Gamboa*, 2013 WL 174077, at *2 (E.D. Cal. Jan. 16, 2013) (excluding “[e]vidence of discovery disputes between the parties or reference to whether Defendants’ production complied with the rules governing discovery”); *Blue Cross & Blue Shield of New Jersey, Inc. v. Philip Morris, Inc.*, 2000 WL 1805359, at *2 (E.D.N.Y. Dec. 11, 2000) (granting motion *in limine* to exclude references to alleged discovery abuses).

This case is no different; the FTC’s discovery allegations are irrelevant to the issues for the jury. Although the FTC previously argued that discovery conduct and privilege claims are relevant to whether the statute of limitations will be tolled, *see* Dkt. 351 at 43–56, and to the calculation of civil penalties, Ex. 4 at 6:2–12, the Parties now agree that these are “[d]eterminations to be made by the Court,” not a jury.³ Ex. 2 at 7. Because the FTC may submit evidence related to these issues “after trial if appropriate,” Dkt. 295, such evidence is irrelevant and inadmissible at the jury trial. *See, e.g., Phillips-Kerley v. City of Fresno*, 2025 WL 1825305, at *10 (E.D. Cal. July 2, 2025) (“Insofar as this evidence relates only to the Court’s equitable obligations ... , the jury will not decide these issues, and this evidence is not relevant or admissible at the trial.”).⁴

³ As noted *supra* at , note 1, subject to the Court’s preferences, the Parties agree that evidence relevant only to “judge questions” may be submitted outside the presence of the jury, after the jury trial. *See* Ex. 1 at 1–3.

⁴ As explained in Amazon’s motion for summary judgment, the FTC’s equitable estoppel argument also fails as a matter of law, including because the FTC failed to timely disclose it, and because the FTC blocked basic discovery into its elements. *See* Dkt. 378 at 18–20.

1 The FTC also asserts that Defendants’ privilege markings “establish their consciousness
 2 of guilt,” and argues that this is relevant to prove “actual knowledge” of ROSCA violations. Dkt.
 3 126 at 51. But this theory distorts the “actual knowledge” standard, which requires proof of
 4 specific knowledge that the Prime flows were prohibited by ROSCA, *see* Dkt. 409 at 6–7, not
 5 “bad faith” in connection with privilege designations.⁵ The FTC’s proffered argument also
 6 confuses the individuals whose “knowledge” matters for civil penalties—Amazon’s privilege
 7 calls resulted from a process that involved outside counsel with no role in designing the Prime
 8 flows, and who did not treat employees’ “P&C” markings as dispositive. *See* Dkt. 303 (Rippey
 9 Decl.) ¶¶ 5–7.

10 In arguing otherwise, the FTC attempts to draw an analogy to patent cases, in which
 11 some courts have held that misconduct during discovery “may be” evidence of post-suit willful
 12 infringement and deferred ruling on the admission of discovery disputes until trial. *E.g.*, *Stone*
 13 *Brewing Co., LLC v. Millercoors LLC*, 2021 WL 63139, at *6 (S.D. Cal. Jan. 7, 2021); *Corning*
 14 *Optical Commc’ns Wireless Ltd. v. Solid, Inc.*, 2015 WL 5569095, at *2 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 22,
 15 2015). But willfulness in the patent context is a different legal standard, which courts have
 16 resolved by applying factors not relevant here, including “the infringer’s behavior as a party to
 17 the litigation.” *IMX, Inc. v. Lendingtree, LLC*, 2006 WL 38918, at *1 (D. Del. Jan. 6, 2006). No
 18 such factor applies here, and for good reason: actual knowledge is a jury question, and juries are
 19 not well-positioned to evaluate whether a party’s conduct in litigation suggests actual knowledge
 20 of illegality.

21 Indeed, even if Amazon’s discovery conduct were relevant (although it is not), it would
 22 be properly excluded under Rule 403. If the FTC were allowed to allege discovery misconduct
 23 before the jury, it would lead to a “mini-trial” over the Parties’ interactions throughout four years

24
 25 ⁵ The FTC’s “consciousness of guilt” argument is also inconsistent with its prior
 26 characterizations of the “actual knowledge” standard. Previously, the FTC argued that “[o]nly
 27 information known to Defendants at the time of their violative conduct is potentially relevant to
 whether they had ‘actual knowledge.’” Dkt. 220 at 16. Yet now, the FTC seeks to prove “actual
 knowledge” by introducing privilege calls that were not even made until years after the alleged
 violations occurred.

1 of pre- and post-suit litigation. This would include, among other things: (i) foundational
 2 background regarding document and privilege reviews, the meet-and-confer process, and the
 3 nature of the attorney-client privilege; (ii) testimony from Amazon's in-house and outside
 4 litigation counsel; (iii) competing characterizations of what happened during the FTC's pre-suit
 5 investigation and in post-suit discovery; and (iv) descriptions of the process underlying
 6 Amazon's privilege calls and document productions.

7 The FTC's pretrial statement confirms how distracting and time-wasting this would be.
 8 The FTC's witness list designates Amazon's in-house counsel to testify regarding the Court's
 9 sanctions orders and "Amazon's 'privileged and confidential' marking practices," and also
 10 includes an unspecified FTC witness to testify about the FTC's "[r]eceipt of ... documents" in an
 11 entirely different case: "the FTC/Amazon competition investigation and litigation." Ex. 5 at 6, 9.
 12 The FTC's exhibit list includes: (1) numerous meet and confer communications from the pre-suit
 13 investigation and this litigation; (2) a "Summary Regarding Defendants' Privilege Log"; (3) this
 14 Court's orders denying Defendants' motions to compel and granting the FTC's motion for
 15 sanctions; (4) one of Defendants' motions to compel; and (5) a declaration from in-house counsel
 16 submitted in opposition to the FTC's motion to "desequester." Ex. 3 at lines 416, 575, 600, 763–
 17 65, 769, 771–73, 775, 797, 802–03, 805, 810, 812. The FTC's deposition designations include
 18 thousands of lines of testimony from a partner at Covington & Burling, including testimony
 19 regarding her personal compensation. Ex. 6 at 19–23. And the FTC further intends to designate
 20 Amazon attorneys' instructions at depositions not to respond to questions that invade privilege.
 21 Ex. 7.

22 If the FTC were permitted to introduce this distracting evidence in support of its
 23 misleading narrative, Defendants would be forced to respond. For example, any argument about
 24 Amazon's privilege practices would open the door to testimony about the FTC's own broad and
 25 improper assertions of privilege, including instructions to FTC witnesses not to identify "who at
 26 the FTC, if anyone, reviewed documents that Amazon produced during the investigation," and
 27 instructions not to disclose communications with third party witnesses. Ex. 8 at 29:9–15, 117:13–

1 119:7, 268:15–21, 269:12–25, 271:24–273:6. Moreover, any argument about Amazon
 2 supposedly delaying the FTC’s investigation would open the door to evidence that the FTC’s
 3 sole investigator “didn’t review any of the documents that Amazon produced,” *id.* 30:2–5, and
 4 that the only other FTC attorney on the case until April 2022 admitted that she “wouldn’t have
 5 the capacity to devote much time and attention to the matter,” Dkt. 327-27; waited months to
 6 open Amazon’s productions, Dkt. 327-59; could not recall reviewing all of them, Dkt. 327-23;
 7 and was removed because “the needs of this case were not compatible with her other
 8 obligations.” Dkt. 327-15.

9 Rule 403 exists precisely to avoid the kinds of distractions that the FTC is proposing, and
 10 to ensure that trial remains focused on the issues and evidence that matter. *See Old Republic Ins.*
 11 *Co. v. Ness, Motley, Loadholt, Richardson & Poole, P.A.*, 2006 WL 3782994, at *13 (N.D. Ill.
 12 Dec. 21, 2006) (precluding defendant from introducing plaintiff’s “Erroneous Privilege Log,”
 13 which would have caused “a ‘trial within a trial’” in which the plaintiff would “be required to
 14 call its previous counsel to testify as to the circumstances surrounding the mistake”); *Pellegrini*
 15 *v. Gooder*, 2012 WL 12893745, at *1 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 6, 2012) (excluding, as irrelevant, “all
 16 references to the sanction previously imposed on the Defendants with regard to discovery
 17 disclosures”); *Richardson v. Union Oil Co. of Cal.*, 170 F.R.D. 333, 334 (D.D.C. 1996)
 18 (following finding of defendant’s bad faith, precluding plaintiff from “present[ing] evidence at
 19 trial regarding the discovery misconduct” given its “potential for creating a distracting and
 20 confusing side-issue which would only divert the jury from its main task”).

21 Amazon’s privilege assertions should also be excluded for a separate, independently
 22 sufficient reason: they would cause significant unfair prejudice by encouraging the jury to
 23 speculate that lawyers told Defendants that the conduct at issue violated the law. It is widely
 24 recognized that, when jurors learn that a party has asserted privilege over an attorney-client
 25 communication, they often assume that the communication was inculpatory. *See DataTreasury*
 26 *Corp. v. Wells Fargo & Co.*, 2010 WL 11538713, at *17 n.6 (E.D. Tex. Feb. 26, 2010)
 27 (“[E]vidence that Defendant obtained opinions of counsel but has declined to produce them

would likely lead to an inference by the jury that such opinions of counsel were negative.” (citation omitted); *McKesson Info. Sols., Inc. v. Bridge Med., Inc.*, 434 F. Supp. 2d 810, 812 (E.D. Cal. 2006) (“It is inescapable that the jury would likely conclude that Bridge received an unfavorable [legal] opinion, otherwise Bridge would reveal it.”). That inference would be especially prejudicial in this case, where a jury determination on Defendants’ knowledge could trigger reputational harm to the Individual Defendants and—according to the FTC—expose them to substantial civil penalties, potentially in the hundreds of millions of dollars. And there would be no way for Defendants to rebut that improper inference without waiving privilege over their communications with counsel.

The Court’s orders on sanctions do not require admission of this information. To the contrary, those orders recognize “that Amazon’s behavior warrants no more relief” than the significant sanctions already imposed. Dkt. 404 at 8. Allowing the FTC to re-litigate the same underlying issues before the jury would amount to an improper and significant evidentiary sanction, contrary to the Court’s rulings. Because the Parties’ discovery disputes are irrelevant, highly prejudicial, and would confuse the issues and waste time, those disputes should be excluded.

MIL 3: Preclude Argument That Counsel Involvement Implies Knowledge

The Court should preclude the FTC from arguing that the presence or involvement of Amazon’s in-house counsel in meetings or emails implies that Amazon or the Individual Defendants knew, or should have known, that their conduct was unlawful. It is standard practice at any company, especially one of Amazon’s size and complexity, for employees to confer with in-house counsel. Courts have recognized that such consultation is not only expected but affirmatively “encourage[d]” as part of the attorney-client relationship. *Optronic Techs., Inc. v. Ningbo Sunny Elec. Co.*, 2019 WL 428782, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 4, 2019). But the FTC’s Amended Complaint contorts this unremarkable fact to contend that such conferral results in “actual knowledge or knowledge fairly implied on the basis of objective circumstances that their actions are unfair or deceptive and are prohibited by ROSCA.” Am. Compl. ¶¶ 259–60. The FTC

1 has also served written discovery designed to establish that in-house counsel was aware of
2 various legal requirements.

3 The inference the FTC seeks to draw is not appropriate nor relevant. Defendants’
4 conferral with legal counsel shows nothing beyond the mere fact that counsel was consulted for
5 advice. *See, e.g., Luck v. McMahon*, 2021 WL 4248887, at *14 (D. Conn. Sept. 17, 2021)
6 (rejecting plaintiff’s requested inference that defendants acted with a “dishonest purpose” based
7 in part on the fact that defendants “sought the advice of their attorneys”).

8 Further, “a primary purpose of the attorney-client privilege is to encourage parties to seek
9 legal advice to guide them through the thickets of complex laws.” *Optronic Techs.*, 2019 WL
10 428782, at *3. The FTC’s argument turns this pillar on its head, urging the jury to infer that
11 consultations with counsel are nefarious. This approach presents a serious risk of juror
12 speculation and confusion. It also severely prejudices Defendants. To rebut the FTC’s
13 arguments, Defendants would need to waive privilege and disclose the substance of their
14 attorney-client communications. A court in this District has excluded “argument[s], reference[s],
15 or comment[s] on [a party’s] meetings, communications, and advice from attorneys” under
16 similar circumstances where, as here, such evidence may “intrude upon the attorney-client
17 privilege” and create “a negative inference” that would require waiver of the privilege to rebut.
18 *Qualey v. Pierce Cnty.*, 2025 WL 948511, at *7–8 (W.D. Wash. Mar. 28, 2025); *see also Parker*
19 *v. Prudential Ins. Co. of Am.*, 900 F.2d 772, 775 (4th Cir. 1990) (noting that inferences about
20 substance of attorney advice “would intrude upon the protected realm of the attorney-client
21 privilege” and that to “protect that interest, a client asserting the privilege should not face a
22 negative inference about the substance of the information sought”).

23 The FTC should not be permitted to turn the mere involvement of counsel into a proxy
24 for scienter or wrongdoing. Without Amazon’s voluntary waiver of privilege and subsequent
25 disclosure of legal advice, the FTC should not be permitted to argue that the mere presence or
26 involvement of in-house counsel implies that Defendants knew their conduct violated ROSCA as
27 the FTC understands it. *Cf. Abdo v. Fitzsimmons*, 2022 WL 2276898, at *1 (N.D. Cal. June 23,

2022) (noting that unless defendants show that they “(1) made a complete disclosure to the professional; (2) requested the professional’s advice as to the legality of the contemplated action; (3) received advice that it was legal; and (4) relied in good faith on that advice,” any mention that lawyers were involved is “a Rule 403 problem [because] the references to attorneys may confuse the jury and unfairly prejudice the [other party]”). The FTC must prove its case at trial; it cannot use the existence of in-house counsel as a shortcut to establish knowledge of wrongdoing.

MIL 4: Exclude Consumer Witness Testimony and Complaints

The FTC concedes that the reasonable consumer standard governs its claims. Because that “standard is an objective test, [] there is no need to look at individual circumstances.” *Orshan v. Apple Inc.*, 2024 WL 4353034, at *16 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 30, 2024). Despite this, the FTC intends to elicit testimony from eight consumers that it has handpicked out of the hundreds of millions of Prime members. Exs. 3, 6. The purported experiences of these select few individuals is irrelevant to the jury’s objective inquiry—not to mention anecdotal, demonstrably unreliable, unrepresentative of the Prime userbase, and statistically insignificant. But even if an individual consumer’s testimony had some minimal probative value, it is greatly outweighed by the confusion, prejudice, and waste of time that would result—including because Defendants would be forced to waste considerable trial time litigating the particulars of each consumer’s experience and introduce competing consumer testimony.

The FTC also seeks to admit written complaints submitted by these same consumer witnesses to the FTC and stored in its Consumer Sentinel database (“Consumer Sentinel Complaints”).⁶ Such evidence is inadmissible for the same reasons, and because it is hearsay without an exception.

A. Consumer Witnesses Should Be Excluded Under Rules 401, 402, and 403

Section 5(a) of the FTC Act and ROSCA apply “an objective rather than subjective” “reasonable consumer test.” Dkt. 351 (FTC Opp. to Defs.’ MSJ) at 14. The subjective,

⁶ The FTC has confirmed that it does not intend to introduce evidence of any consumer declarations for any purpose, nor any Consumer Sentinel Complaints by non-testifying witnesses. *See* Ex. 1 at 15.

individualized experiences of a handful of consumers are thus irrelevant and not helpful to the jury. *See id.* (conceding “an individual consumer cannot prevail by claiming they themselves did not actually see or understand the disclosures even if the disclosures were *objectively* conspicuous”); *Orshan*, 2024 WL 4353034 at *16; *Miller v. Fuhu Inc.*, 2015 WL 7776794, at *16 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 1, 2015) (stating that “individualized inquiries” not relevant under objective test of “reasonable consumer”).

But even if some consumer testimony could theoretically have probative value, the testimony of these consumers chosen by the FTC is more prejudicial than probative.

First, their testimony is unreliable and confusing. Many of the FTC’s potential consumer witnesses have admitted that their allegations are inaccurate:

- Ex. 9 at 190:16–191:7 (“[O]bviously I had, you know, some stuff in [the declaration] that wasn’t accurate, which we found out today. It wasn’t exactly correct.”); *id.* at 141:3–22 (unsure if her declaration is accurate);
- Ex. 10 at 156:24–157:23 (admitting he appears to have been notified of his enrollment in Prime via email, despite declaring to the contrary);
- Ex. 11 at 132:1–4 (admitting her allegation was “not an accurate statement”); *id.* at 220:21–221:1 (same);
- Ex. 12 at 231:8–17 (signed up for Prime once in 2024, contrary to complaint that “Amazon keeps signing me up for Prime”);
- Ex. 13 at 150:1–18 (admitting he did not unintentionally enroll the number of times he had alleged).

Other consumers admitted that they did not remember key events in their allegations:

- Ex. 18, Ex. B (Gorman Decl.) ¶ 4 (“I cannot fully recall the events of this case”);
- *Id.*, Ex. A (Osborne Decl.) (“I am withdrawing my complaint and testimony with the FTC regarding Amazon because I don’t recall the events the way I thought I did.”)
- Ex. 14 at 104:6–17 (memory was not good enough to remember what the cancellation flow looked like);

- 1 • Ex. 12 at 214:8–215:3, 236:19–237:18 (unable to recall how or whether he
- 2 cancelled);
- 3 • Ex. 13 at 124:7–126:23 (did not recall receiving welcome email on day of Prime sign-
- 4 up);
- 5 • Ex. 15 at 115:3–18 (did not know what language in her FTC-drafted declaration
- 6 refers to);
- 7 • Ex. 16 at 72:22–73:2 (did not “really recall specifically what happened that day [she]
- 8 enrolled in Prime and cancelled [her] membership”).

9 And still others have given implausible testimony that is inconsistent with the FTC’s theories,
 10 such as Ann Everett’s testimony that she was enrolled in Prime even though she is “very certain”
 11 she “never clicked anything other than ‘No, Thanks,’” Ex. 9 at 108:5–9, 115:19–116:4, and
 12 Katherine Holmes’s testimony that she was enrolled in Prime because the page had no decline
 13 option, even though no such page exists and she readily identified the decline option when
 14 presented with the enrollment flow. Ex. 16 at 65:4–13.

15 *Second*, these consumers are not representative of the “ordinary consumer.” *Robie v.*
 16 *Trader Joe’s Co.*, 2021 WL 2548960, at *4 (N.D. Cal. June 14, 2021); *cf. Groeneveld Transp.*
 17 *Efficiency, Inc. v. Lubecore Int’l, Inc.*, 730 F.3d 494, 509 (6th Cir. 2013) (“[T]he focus is on the
 18 typical buyer exercising ordinary caution, not the most obtuse consumer[.]” (cleaned up)). The
 19 fifteen consumers the FTC originally disclosed as potential witnesses were not randomly selected
 20 but were instead cherry picked by the FTC from a group of self-selecting individuals who had
 21 filed complaints with the FTC. *See* Ex. 19; *see also* Exs. 18, 20. Then, after discovery, the FTC
 22 further cherry-picked just eight of these consumers for its witness list. That the FTC’s chosen
 23 eight witnesses are not representative of typical Amazon users is apparent from the consumers’
 24 own admissions at deposition. For instance, one of them does not own a smartphone, *see* Ex. 15
 25 at 44:11; another conceded he was not the “average” online shopper because of his infrequency
 26 of use, *see* Ex. 17 at 240:23–241:1; another has fibromyalgia with memory impairment and age-
 27 related diminishing visual acuity, *see* Ex. 14 at 114:11–24, 120:14–22; one has dyslexia, which

1 affects his reading comprehension, *see* Ex. 10 at 197:15–24; and another works in website design
2 and testified from a design perspective, *see* Ex. 12 at 14:9–13, 102:6–104:15.

3 These factors not only make the consumers’ testimony unhelpful to the jury, they also
4 reflect the kinds of “mini-trials” that the Parties would engage in concerning each consumer’s
5 experience. These “mini-trials” would include myriad other issues, such as the presentation of
6 internal Amazon data undermining the consumers’ allegations, *see, e.g.*, Ex. 13 at 129:12–130:6
7 (data showed he was signed up for Prime via Prime Video, which his friend had access to); Ex.
8 15 at 114:12–17, 189:8–14 (data showed she opened the Prime welcome email twice, despite
9 testimony she did not recall ever seeing such an email); the same consumers’ positive
10 experiences with Amazon and Prime, *see, e.g.*, Ex. 10 at 158:6–24 (agreeing the Prime online
11 cancellation process was “very straightforward and easy to accomplish”); Ex. 17 at 51:19–52:4,
12 63:23–64:14 (testifying he had never been enrolled in Prime unintentionally); Ex. 16 at 138:8–
13 139:21 (testifying she had not requested but still automatically received a refund of her
14 membership fee because she did not use benefits); and the consumers’ potential biases, *see, e.g.*,
15 Ex. 17 at 107:12–17 (referred to “Amazon as an evil corporation in a Facebook post”); Ex. 13 at
16 157:13–159:8 (testifying that Amazon is “destroying some small businesses,” expressing “hope”
17 that it would “collapse[],” and claiming that Amazon and “a lot of companies” “exploit either
18 their consumers or their workers”). *See Tennison v. Circus Circus Enters., Inc.*, 244 F.3d 684,
19 690 (9th Cir. 2001) (upholding exclusion of testimony where admission “might have resulted in
20 a ‘mini trial,’ considering that much of their testimony was disputed by Defendants”).
21 Defendants would further be required to call their own consumer witnesses to report positive
22 experiences with the Prime enrollment and cancellation flows, consuming more trial time. And
23 since the FTC intends to call only eight of its original fifteen consumers, Defendants would be
24 entitled to call other former FTC consumer witnesses to contextualize the FTC’s selected
25 witnesses.

26 In short, the limited probative value of any individual consumer’s testimony is greatly
27 offset by the waste of time and confusion that will be generated it.

B. Consumer Sentinel Complaints Are Inadmissible Under Rule 807

The FTC has also indicated that it may introduce a testifying consumer’s Consumer Sentinel Complaint pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 801(d)(1) and 807(a). *See* Ex. 1 at 15. Whether the FTC is able to satisfy the requirements of Rule 801(d)(1) must be deferred to trial. Rule 807, however, is no basis for admissibility, as the complaints lack sufficient “guarantees of trustworthiness” to qualify for admission under Rule 807. *See Wilson v. City of Los Angeles*, 2020 WL 7711836, at *9 (C.D. Cal. July 20, 2020) (“[T]he proponent of the evidence bears the burden of presenting sufficient indicia of trustworthiness to establish that the hearsay is admissible under the narrow residual hearsay exception.”). These complaints are not just unverified and uncorroborated—they are demonstrably unreliable. *See id.* at *9, *21 (“faulty” memory and lack of corroboration for the consumers’ complaints bear on trustworthiness); *ADT LLC v. Alarm Protection LLC*, 2017 WL 1952302, at *2 (S.D. Fla. May 11, 2017) (declining to admit declarations under Rule 807 because of inaccuracies). As shown above, depositions repeatedly revealed that the consumers’ complaints contain prejudicial inaccuracies or were made with missing information. *See supra* MIL 4 § A; *see also* Ex. 9 at 161:3–16 (admitting she did not know the details of her Prime enrollment when she filed her complaint); Ex. 16 at 147:6–148:18 (admitting it was “more likely” she had actually cancelled successfully, contrary to her complaint). Given the lack of any “significant indicators of trustworthiness”—and indeed, evidence to the contrary—these consumer complaints cannot be admitted under Rule 807. *United States v. Bonds*, 608 F.3d 495, 501 (9th Cir. 2010).

MIL 5: Exclude Non-U.S. Evidence

The FTC has made clear that it intends to use evidence about Amazon flows and consumer experiences *outside* the United States to try to prove that the Defendants violated the law *within* the United States. Such evidence includes qualitative and quantitative data from country-specific studies Amazon conducted abroad with consumers in those countries. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 3 at line 83 (document with data concerning tests on “Prime Interstitial in [the] UK”); *id.* at lines 319–20 (emails concerning “UK Prime” and “deep dive[s]” conducted on the Prime UX in

Japan); Ex. 22 at 80:5–86:10 (France Shopping Experience Study); Ex. 23 at 147:18–25 (consumer study in Germany); Ex. 24 at 112:24–113:16 (same); *id.* at 105:19–21 (consumer research in Germany and “Mexico, Spain, France, et cetera”); Dkt. 255-11 (“JP Prime Benchmarking Study – Q4 2019”); *id.* at 12 (survey data from Japan, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Japan); Dkt. 314 (FTC’s MSJ) at 22, 40 (highlighting experiences of Japanese customers). This evidence should be excluded because it has minimal probative value and its introduction is likely to “confus[e] the issues,” “mislead[] the jury,” and “waste time.” Fed. R. Evid. 403.

This case is about Amazon’s Prime enrollment and cancellation flows “throughout *the United States*.” Am. Compl. ¶ 13 (emphasis added). Evidence about Prime’s flows in other countries—and about how non-U.S. consumers experience those non-U.S. flows—are of minimal relevance or probative value in proving the FTC’s claims.

First and foremost, the FTC has not shown that the flows seen by the international consumers are similar in all material respects to those at issue here. To the contrary, “lots of elements of the business can vary from country to country,” Ex. 25 at 174:6–10, including the Prime flows. *See, e.g., id.* at 96:14–25 (giving one example of a difference between the U.S. and Germany); Ex. 26 at 41:7–43:7 (discussing differences between German and U.S. Prime upsells); Ex. 27 at 162:7–23 (testifying that an element of the UPDP shown to him was unique to the United Kingdom); Ex. 28 at 242:15–18 (testifying that “the launches of our products often are staggered by locale because we need to make changes that are often unique to one country”).

Second, the consumers themselves vary from market to market in ways that significantly affect their perception of online flows. *See Sugar Ass’n, Inc. v. McNeil-PPC, Inc.*, 2008 WL 4755611, at *2 (C.D. Cal. Jan. 7, 2008) (excluding evidence from outside the United States where “[t]his case is brought under American law, based on the alleged perceptions of American consumers” and “[r]espondents have not demonstrated that foreign laws or perceptions are similar”). As one of the FTC’s proffered experts testified, “different countries might have different clarity standards, depending on cultural differences or understanding of certain online

1 retail experiences.” Ex. 29 at 290:23–291:2; *see also* Ex. 30 at 260:21–261:8 (testifying that
2 whether consumers read “T&Cs on a page like” the UPDP varies, including by “cultural
3 background, country”). And consumers in other countries may be less familiar with Prime. The
4 non-U.S. data and studies the FTC seeks to introduce reflect these critical differences. For
5 example, the stated goals of the “France (FR) End-to-End Shopping Experience Study” were to
6 “uncover the unique needs of the French shopper and to understand whether competitors are
7 meeting those needs better than Amazon.” Ex. 22 at 83:4–7 (quoting Hagen Dep. Ex. 3).
8 Whether Amazon’s French store is meeting the “unique needs of the French shopper” has little,
9 if any, bearing on whether Amazon’s U.S. Prime experience is clear and simple for U.S.
10 consumers. For the same reasons, it has no bearing on Defendants’ knowledge of the alleged
11 ROSCA violations. The same goes for the other non-U.S. evidence the FTC will seek to
12 introduce.

13 Due to these differences in practices and perceptions, courts routinely exclude data and
14 surveys based on irrelevant markets or populations. *See Sugar Ass’n*, 2008 WL 4755611, at *2;
15 *Reinsdorf v. Skechers U.S.A.*, 922 F. Supp. 2d 866, 878 (C.D. Cal. 2013) (excluding survey
16 where “[t]here is no indication that the survey population had any relationship to the relevant
17 population of ... consumers”); *see also Icon Enters. Int’l, Inc. v. Am. Prods. Co.*, 2004 WL
18 5644805, at *24 (C.D. Cal. Oct. 7, 2004) (“[A] survey that provides information about a wholly
19 irrelevant universe of respondents is itself irrelevant.” (quoting Reference Manual on Scientific
20 Evidence, 241 (Federal Judicial Center 2000))).

21 Even if the evidence has some relevance, it must be excluded under Rule 403. When the
22 probative value of evidence is low, even “a small risk of misleading” or confusing the jury is
23 enough to require exclusion under that rule. *United States v. Espinoza-Baza*, 647 F.3d 1182,
24 1189 (9th Cir. 2011). And the risk that the non-U.S. evidence will mislead or confuse is high.
25 Allowing the FTC to present evidence that suggests French, German, Mexican, Spanish, or
26 Japanese consumers might have unintentionally signed up for Prime, or had difficulty cancelling,
27 when faced with the local Prime flows in those countries creates an obvious danger of the jury

1 mistakenly finding Amazon liable based on conduct that occurred elsewhere and in a very
2 different context.

3 Compounding the problems, to avoid this risk, Amazon would be forced to respond to the
4 FTC's non-U.S. evidence by (i) explaining to the jury the differences between the U.S. and non-
5 U.S. flows; (ii) discussing the unique features of U.S. versus non-U.S. consumers; and (iii)
6 otherwise contextualizing data and survey evidence from half-a-dozen countries. Amazon and
7 the FTC would "in essence" be forced to "conduct a mini-trial" on each non-U.S. report or
8 survey. *In re Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) Antitrust Litig.*, 2016 WL 7803893, at *2 (N.D. Cal.
9 Nov. 15, 2016) (excluding evidence about foreign proceeding under Rule 403). This too is a
10 reason the non-U.S. evidence must be excluded under Rule 403. "One function of [that Rule] is
11 to avoid the introduction of 'large quantities of extrinsic evidence to create mini-trials regarding
12 tangentially related matters.'" *Id.*; see also *Est. of Cecil Elkins v. Pelayo*, 2022 WL 1625181, at
13 *6 (E.D. Cal. May 23, 2022) ("The greater the evidence involved and the trial time consumed,
14 the greater the danger jury confusion.").

15 For all of these reasons, the FTC should be precluded from introducing any evidence,
16 testimony, or references to the non-U.S. consumer data, surveys, and reports.

17 **MIL 6: Exclude Evidence or Argument on Certain Surveys**

18 Defendants move to exclude all evidence and argument regarding certain surveys
19 conducted by Amazon: (1) the "Search Sentiment Survey," a customer satisfaction survey that
20 elicited feedback on customers' shopping experiences and incidentally asked, "Are you an
21 Amazon Prime member?" Ex. 34 (Kivetz Opening Report) ¶¶ 396–98; (2) all versions of the
22 "Cancellation Survey," an optional customer-satisfaction "exit" survey that explored customers'
23 reasons for cancelling their Prime memberships and provided "I did not intend to sign up for
24 Prime" as an answer choice, *id.* ¶¶ 18–20; and (3) two "Benchmarking Surveys" used to compare
25 Japanese customer experiences against those of customers in other countries, including the
26 United States, which inquired about how customers enrolled and provided several, "I joined
27 Prime without realising," answer choices. Ex. 31 at -1350; Ex. 32 at -7885.

1 These surveys were intended as tools to gather anecdotal customer-experience insights.
 2 Yet the FTC intends to argue that answers to their leading and ambiguous questions establish
 3 that consumers enrolled in Prime non-consensually and that the surveys provide measurements
 4 of rates of non-consensual enrollment. *See* Dkt. 314 at 60–61 (relying on survey data as
 5 “empirical evidence” of “nonconsensual enrollment”); Dkt. 381 at 17 (“At trial, the FTC will use
 6 the [cancellation] survey to reasonably approximate consumer harm.”). The surveys were not
 7 designed—and are manifestly unfit—for those purposes. They do not meet the admissibility
 8 standard for survey evidence and are independently excludable under Rules 401, 402, and 403
 9 because they are not congruent with the issues in the case and their admission would result in
 10 delay and confusion and unduly prejudice Defendants.

11 **A. The Surveys Are Fundamentally Unreliable as Empirical Evidence of Non-**
 12 **Consensual Enrollment**

13 The proponent of survey evidence must “show that the survey was conducted in
 14 accordance with generally accepted survey principles.” *Monster Energy Co. v. Vital Pharms.,*
 15 *Inc.*, 2025 WL 1111495, at *1 (9th Cir. Apr. 15, 2025); *Keith v. Volpe*, 858 F.2d 467, 480 (9th
 16 Cir. 1988). Although methodological “quibbles” go to weight rather than admissibility,
 17 “substantial deficiencies in the design or execution of a survey” warrant “complete exclusion.”
 18 *Sec. Alarm Fin. Enters., L.P. v. Alder Holdings, LLC*, 2017 WL 5248181, at *1 (D. Alaska
 19 Feb. 21, 2017); *Casey v. Home Depot*, 2016 WL 7479347, at *20–21 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 15, 2016);
 20 *Obrey v. Johnson*, 400 F.3d 691, 696 (9th Cir. 2005) (confirming excludability of “statistical
 21 evidence [that] suffer[s] from serious methodological flaws”).

22 Professor Kivetz, Amazon’s expert, identified in the Cancellation and Search Sentiment
 23 Surveys fundamental flaws of the types that result in exclusion. *See generally* Ex. 34 ¶¶ 17–18;
 24 Ex. 35 ¶ 5. “When [the] flaws are combined ... it becomes clear that [the] survey[s] w[ere] not
 25 conducted according to established and accepted principles.” *Sec. Alarm*, 2017 WL 5248181, at
 26 *7. These flaws are unsurprising given the surveys’ limited purposes and inherent limitations as
 27

1 “internal customer satisfaction survey[s].” *See* Ex. 34 ¶¶ 46–47, 398; Ex. 35 ¶ 8. The most
 2 serious flaws include:

3 Unrepresentative population. The Cancellation Survey’s respondent population is grossly
 4 unrepresentative of the Prime subscriber base because the survey was offered only to Prime
 5 members who had decided to cancel their memberships (as opposed to all members) and its
 6 response rate of only 2.1% indicates significant non-response, self-selection, and negativity
 7 biases. Ex. 34 at 34–54; Ex. 35 at 123–24; Dkt. 361-3, Ex. 132 at 103:12–22; *see In re Autozone,*
 8 *Inc.*, 2016 WL 4208200, at *17 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 10, 2016) (excluding survey with “woefully low
 9 response rate ... of 3.43%”); *Sec. Alarm*, 2017 WL 5248181, at *4 (“[C]ourts have excluded
 10 surveys when the response rate falls below 10 percent”). If the survey is admitted, the jury is
 11 likely to erroneously conclude that its results are representative of all Prime enrollees even
 12 though negative responses are likely severely overrepresented. As for the Search Sentiment
 13 Survey, there is “no documentation” at all of its sampling and response rate and thus “no basis”
 14 to assume the population is representative. Ex. 35 at 32–35. The FTC’s expert admittedly “did
 15 not conduct any analysis to determine whether the results of either survey was biased by
 16 nonresponse error.” Dkt. 361-2, Ex. 106 at 78:24–79:21; *see Autozone*, 2016 WL 4208200, at
 17 *17 (emphasizing failure to “account for the possibility of nonresponse bias”).

18 Leading questions. Rather than ask the open-ended question “why are you cancelling,”
 19 the Cancellation Survey repeatedly presents users with a closed-ended list of answer choices
 20 including, “I did not intend to sign up for Prime.” Ex. 34 ¶¶ 104, 110–11. Such leading questions
 21 foster biases including demand effects, focalism, acquiescence, and order effects, *id.* at 54–72,
 22 and are a frequent reason for exclusion. *See, e.g., Procter & Gamble Pharms., Inc. v. Hoffman-*
 23 *Laroche, Inc.*, 2006 WL 258802, at *21–24 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 6, 2006); *Manual for Complex*
 24 *Litigation* (2004), Federal Judicial Center, Fourth, Section 11.493, p. 103.

25 Lack of control. “Control” questions are “fundamental” features of consumer surveys
 26 used to identify and account for the portions of survey measurements attributable to “noise”—
 27 erroneous answers resulting from “guessing behavior, leading questions and answer choices,

yea-saying, participants’ prior knowledge and experiences, and/or any other flaws inherent in the survey’s methodology.” Ex. 34 ¶ 156. Here, both surveys lack any control—a critical problem given the Cancellation Survey’s leading questions and Search Sentiment Survey data showing similar rates of (i) consumers incorrectly reporting they *are* Prime members and (ii) consumers incorrectly reporting they *are not* Prime members. Ex. 34 at 91–106, 231; Ex. 35 at 35–39. *See Simon Prop. Grp. LP v. mySimon, Inc.*, 104 F. Supp. 2d 1033, 1047–48 (S.D. Ind. 2000) (“[T]he absence of adequate controls to test for legally relevant confusion provides an[] independent reason for exclu[sion]”).

Overbroad and ambiguous questions/answers. The Cancellation Survey’s “I did not intend to sign up for Prime” answer is susceptible to several inconsistent interpretations, including that a free-trial respondent did not intend to sign up for a *paid* subscription. Ex. 34 at 79–85. Similarly, the Search Sentiment Survey’s membership-status answers do not distinguish trials from paid memberships nor account for respondents who turned “auto-renew” off. Ex. 35 at 39–46.

The FTC has no meaningful rebuttal. Its experts merely sidestep the surveys’ core flaws. *Id.* at 34–35, 39–46, 51–52, 93–94, 122–37. Nor can the FTC draw “directional” conclusions from Cancellation Survey response “trends,” Dkt. 381 at 15: responses varied considerably by survey instrument and consumer sample, demonstrating each survey version’s unreliability on its own and in conjunction with other evidence. Ex. 35 at 104–22.

The FTC’s contention that it should be excused from its admissibility burden insofar as Amazon “manifested a belief in [the surveys’] trustworthiness,” Dkt. 351 at 20, is legally and factually incorrect. Parties’ pre-litigation surveys must pass the “accepted survey principles” test. *Monster Energy*, 2025 WL 1111495, at *1. Regardless, since before this suit, Amazon employees have highlighted the Cancellation Survey’s limitations and warned against relying on it as empirical evidence. *E.g.*, Dkt. 327, Ex. 12 at -677 (noting “data may not be taken at [] face value due to biases in response[s] ... and other factors that influence survey responses”); Dkt. 364, Ex. 80 at 1 (recommending “not start[ing] with the survey”); Dkt. 364-2, Ex. 98 at 142:24–

1 143:2 (“cancellation survey isn’t meant to be representative of ... all customers that cancel”).
 2 And the FTC’s assertion that an unidentified “Amazon economist relied on ... the Search
 3 Sentiment Survey” to estimate unintentional “free-trial” sign-ups, Dkt. 351 at 20, is irrelevant
 4 and false: the cited document is a draft specifying the relied-upon sentence was “[d]eleted.” Dkt.
 5 360, Att. 193 at 7.

6 As for the Benchmarking Surveys, the sampling and response rate are unknown because
 7 the underlying data is unavailable. *See Monster Energy*, 2025 WL 1111495, at *2 (affirming
 8 exclusion of “summar[ies] [of] survey results” in absence of “survey results or data itself”).
 9 Those surveys also used closed-ended questions, *see* Ex. 31 at -1350, Ex. 32 at -7885 (requiring
 10 respondents to select from five answer choices to “best describe[] [their] experience” “join[ing]
 11 Prime,” two of which refer to enrolling “without realising”), and no control group, Ex. 33 at
 12 54:15–22. The FTC likely will cite testimony from an Amazon Benchmarking employee that the
 13 surveys complied with the Benchmarking team’s survey practices, but “different methodologies”
 14 may or may not be suitable depending on survey purpose. *Id.* at 52:3–11; Ex. 34 ¶ 22 (“Because
 15 a company’s surveys conducted in the ordinary course of business can serve different purposes
 16 and functions, the types of inferences and conclusions that can be drawn from a given survey
 17 depend heavily on the type of survey.”), ¶ 41. The Benchmarking Surveys were designed to
 18 provide “customer feedback” “insights” for “business teams”—not empirical evidence
 19 appropriate for courtrooms. Ex. 33 at 53:22–54:7. Likely for this reason, the deponent had
 20 “[n]ever heard of the term control group or control question ... with respect to survey[s],” *id.* at
 21 51:24–52:11, yet such controls are known to be “fundamental” guardrails for surveys used in
 22 academic research and litigation. Ex. 34 ¶¶ 156–60.

23 **B. The Surveys Should Be Excluded Under Federal Rules of Evidence 401, 402,**
 24 **and 403**

25 All surveys have negligible relevance given their lack of “congruen[ce] with the issues in
 26 the case,” *McCarthy on Trademarks and Unfair Competition* § 32:170 (4th ed. 2008), and
 27 methodological limitations. The Search Sentiment Survey in particular is wholly irrelevant: Its

1 question, “Are you an Amazon Prime member?” is “simply ... not probative” because whether
2 or not an individual correctly reports their current membership status *when completing the survey*
3 reveals nothing about that individual’s mindset or awareness *when they enrolled*, often months or
4 years earlier. Ex. 34 ¶ 399; *Roar Spirits, LLC v. Sutter Home Winery, Inc.*, 2025 WL 523898, at
5 *17–18 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 18, 2025); *Ngethpharat v. State Farm Fire & Cas. Co.*, 2021 WL
6 2823245, at *2–3 (W.D. Wash. July 7, 2021). The Cancellation Survey has at most marginal
7 relevance given its susceptibility to a host of survey biases and the ambiguity of the “I did not
8 intend to sign up for Prime” answer choice. *See supra* MIL 6 § A.

9 Irrespective of the FTC’s relevance proffers, however, the alleged probative value of any
10 survey would be substantially outweighed by the risk the jury would interpret the results as
11 scientific evidence and measurement of non-consensual enrollment—even though the survey
12 cannot support such use. Such prejudice would be particularly unfair because the issue of
13 whether the Prime flows elicit express informed consent is governed by an *objective* standard
14 that requires the jury to focus on the flows rather than speculate about responses to closed-ended
15 survey questions. Given the surveys’ fundamental limitations, “the dangers of unfair
16 prejudice ... substantially outweigh any probative value.” *Sugar Ass’n*, 2008 WL 4755611, at
17 *3–4; *Sec. Alarm*, 2017 WL 5248181, at *7 (value of survey that “simply is not a consumer
18 confusion survey” substantially outweighed by dangers of prejudice and confusion). Any
19 probative value would also be far outweighed by the delay and confusion from inevitable mini-
20 trials on each survey’s context and reliability. *See City of New York v. Pullman Inc.*, 662 F.2d
21 910, 915 (2d Cir. 1981) (upholding exclusion where admission would “have been likely to
22 protract an already prolonged trial with ... inquir[ies] into collateral issues regarding the
23 accuracy of the survey and the methods used”).

24
25 DATED this 11th day of August, 2025.

1 I certify that this memorandum contains 8,425 words, in compliance with the Local Civil
2 Rules and the Court's order granting Defendants 8,500 words for their motions *in limine*.
3 Dkt. 419.

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